

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-05 AID-05

OPR-02 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /063 W

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O R 172225Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9368

INFO AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

USCINCSO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN SALVADOR 4244

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PBOR, MOPS, ES, HO

SUBJECT: TROOP MOVEMENTS AT SALVADORAN-HONDURAN BORDER

USCINCSO FOR POLAD

REF: TEGUCIGALPA 4526

1. OCTOBER 17 NEWSPAPERS CARRIED AP STORY DATELINED TEGUCIGALPA WHICH ALLEGED THAT THE GOH HAD BEGUN TO MOBILIZE TROOPS IN THE REGION OF EL AMATILLO IN RESPONSE TO SALVADORAN TROOP MOVEMENTS IN THE REGION. THE ARTICLE QUOTED LT. COL. EFRAIN GONZALEZ, MINISTER OF INFORMATION, AS ITS SOURCE. GONZALEZ WAS QUOTED AS SAYING, "EL SALVADOR DID NOT PREVIOUSLY INFORM US OF THE MOVEMENT OF ITS TROOPS. IF IT HAD, WE WOULD NOT HAVE HAD TO TAKE PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES."

2. THE SALVADORAN MINISTRY OF DEFENSE IMMEDIATELY ISSUED A COMMUNIQUE WHICH STATED THAT THERE WAS NO TRUTH TO THE ALLEGATION OF SALVADORAN TROOP MOVEMENT AT OR NEAR THE BORDER.

3. MOD ROMERO CALLED DATT THIS AFTERNOON AND CATEGORICALLY
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DENIED THAT THERE WAS ANY TRUTH TO THIS STORY OUR OF

TEGUCIGALPA ABOUT SALVADORAN TROOP MOVEMENTS. IN THE STRONGEST TERMS, HE EXPRESSED HIS BEWILDERMENT AT WHAT OR WHO WAS BEHIND SUCH OBVIOUSLY ERRONEOUS STORIES.

4. COMMENT - THE EMBASSY BELIEVES IT MIGHT BE USEFUL FOR AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA TO INFORM THE GOH OF THE SALVADORAN MOD'S CATEGORICAL ASSURANCES THAT THE REPORTS OF SALVADORAN TROOP MOVEMENTS ARE NOT TRUE.
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Message Attributes

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